[11]

Dec. 2, 1980

| [54] | SINGLE-ELECTRODE CAPACITANCE TOUCHPAD SENSOR SYSTEMS |
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[75] Inventor: Wesley K. Waldron, Scotia, N.Y.

[73] Assignee: General Electric Company,

Schenectady, N.Y.

[21] Appl. No.: 952,705

Waldron

[22] Filed: Oct. 19, 1978

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Primary Examiner—Stanley D. Miller, Jr. Assistant Examiner—B. P. Davis

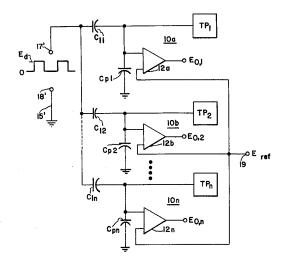
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Geoffrey H. Krauss; Marvin

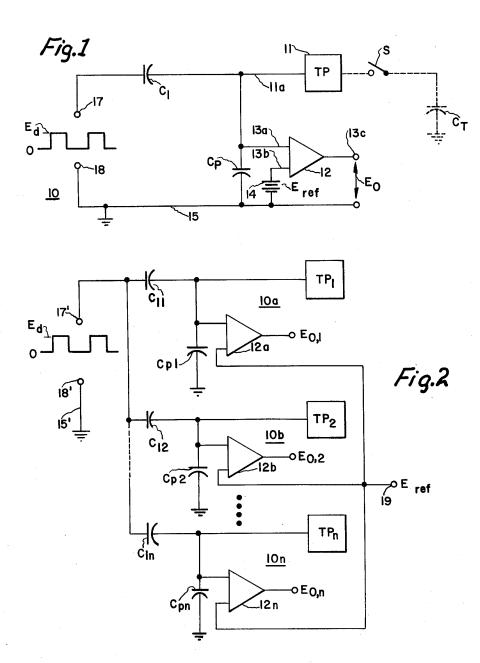
Snyder; James C. Davis

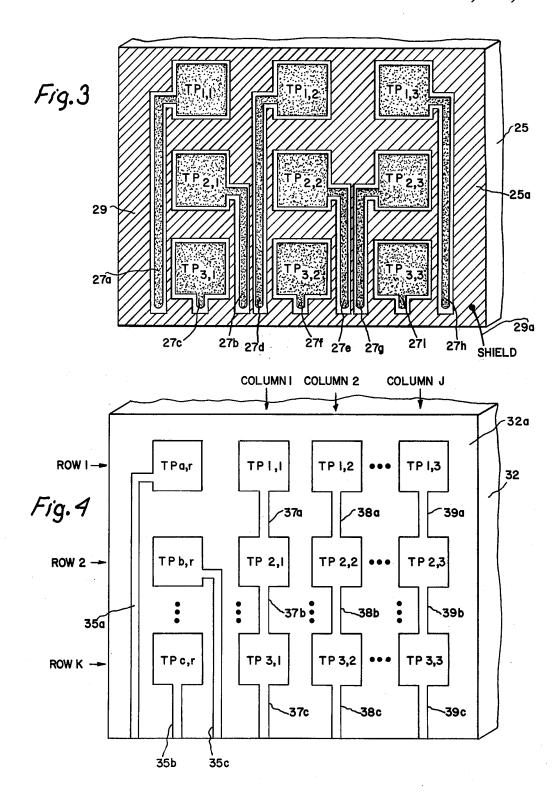
[57] ABSTRACT

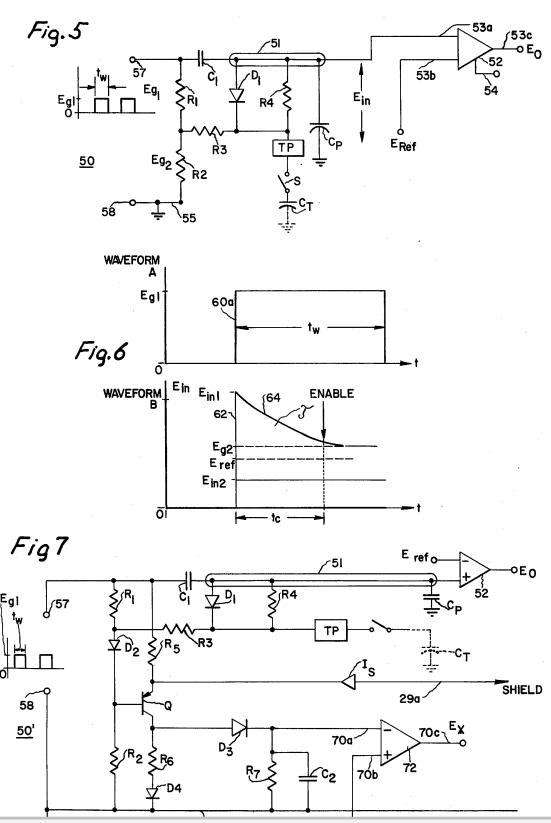
Each of an array of capacitive touchpad sensors has a single touchpad electrode fabricated upon a substrate and accessible to user personnel, with series coupling and shunt capacitance being provided respectively between a driving generator and the touchpad electrode, and the touchpad electrode and an array ground. Each capacitive touchpad sensor operates with a sense amplifier to provide a high density sensor array requiring relatively low driving voltage amplitudes and may be utilized with driven shields and a normalization network to provide reliable capacitance sensing with reduced sensitivity to contamination of the surface of the sensor array.

20 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures

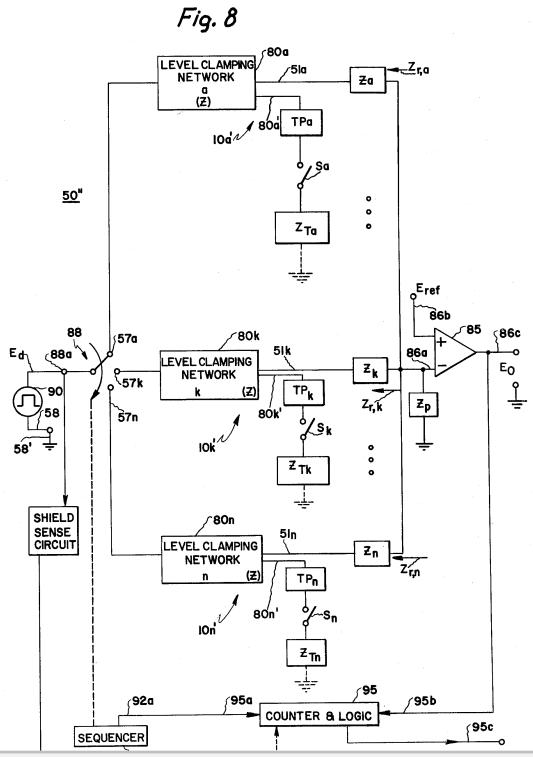














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